

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A durable press finish composition for a cellulosic fibrous substrate, which finish composition comprises formamidine sulfinic acid; a durable press agent; a catalyst; and
5 an additional component selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene softener, one or more water- and oil-repellent agents, and combinations thereof.
2. A finish composition according to claim 1 wherein the additional component is a polyethylene softener.
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3. A finish composition according to claim 1 wherein the additional component is at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.
4. A finish composition according to claim 1 wherein the additional component is a
15 mixture of a polyethylene softener and at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.
5. An improved durable press finish composition comprising a durable press agent and a catalyst, the improvement comprising adding to the durable press formulation formamidine sulfinic acid and an additional component selected from the group
20 consisting of a polyethylene softener, one or more water- and oil-repellent agents, and combinations thereof.
6. An improved durable press finish composition according to claim 5 wherein the additional component is a polyethylene softener.
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7. An improved durable press finish composition according to claim 5 wherein the additional component is at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.
8. An improved durable press finish composition according to claim 5 wherein the
30 additional component is a mixture of a polyethylene softener and at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.

9. A process for imparting tear strength, flex abrasion resistance and durable press properties to a cellulosic fibrous substrate, the process comprising:

5 exposing a cellulosic fibrous substrate to a finish composition comprising
formamidine sulfinic acid; a durable press agent; a catalyst; and an
additional component selected from the group consisting of a
polyethylene softener, one or more water- and oil-repellent agents, and
combinations thereof; and
curing the exposed fibrous substrate;
to give a treated cellulosic fibrous substrate that exhibits an improved resilience and
10 endurability.

10. A process according to claim 9 wherein the additional component is a polyethylene softener.

15 11. A process according to claim 9 wherein the additional component is at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.

12. A process according to claim 9 wherein the additional component is a mixture of a polyethylene softener and at least one water- and oil-repellent agent.

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13. A process according to claim 9 wherein the cellulosic fibrous substrate is cotton.

14. A cellulosic fibrous substrate which has been treated according to the process of claim 9, the treated cellulosic fibrous substrate exhibiting an improved resilience and
25 endurability.

15. A cellulosic fibrous substrate according to claim 14, which is cotton.